



THE PREZ SEZ...



Well, another very busy month has past. Classes seem to be going well and there are several students becoming more aware of the power of their computers.

The annual APCUG Conference will be January 3rd-6th of 2005. Anyone interested in attending can get more information on their website at: http://www.apcug.net/Events/fall_2004_preview.htm. It sounds like a great time. Ed Freeman, our past president will be attending so anyone that wants to go can hook up with him. Don't forget to bring back a report for CCMV!

As you will see in this newsletter, I have had a great response from some of our members from my request for newsletter articles. **Keep them coming!** We still need an editor. It's really not that hard to do, I just am having a hard

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Genealogy Club of Sun City

Are you using your computer to search for ancestors or put a few more twigs on your family tree? There are additional ways to do genealogy research. Perhaps you've missed a few.

The Genealogy Club of Sun City can help you find those missing facts, help you get through that brick wall. They meet on the second Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Provident Bank in Sun City. That is located at Cherry Hills Blvd. and Sun City Blvd. Guest speakers and experienced club members offer assistance in all phases of genealogy research and record keeping. Guests are welcome.

On the fourth Monday of each month, club members attend a workshop at their genealogy library. With many resources at hand, members help one another discover long-hidden data.

For more information, e-mail Linda Arnold: LRFArnold@AOL.com, or phone her at 951/301-9814.

My Thoughts Regarding the Recent SWUG Conference

by Larry Nelson

This is the fourth time I've attended the conference, and I was somewhat disappointed in it this time. First of all, the Workshops leave a lot to be desired. They have the same ones year after year with just a few new ones to give you something to go to. The two workshops that I thought were worthwhile were Printer Cartridge refills by Cynthia Hunter from the Ink Dot Co. and how to give an effective Presentation in a Box with Judy Taylour. Most of the meals were good and the presentations given by the host vendors were great.

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The "Day of Infamy," Dec.7, 1941

By Frank Verano

I write here not to cover my personal experience at Pearl Harbor but to talk about the macro picture of that event

We witnessed a similar event on '9-11'. Both events were watershed events in American History, and perhaps in World History. Although I was only a 'kid' of 21 years, I did have some sense of the importance of the attack on Pearl Harbor. My immediate thoughts were that 'we are at war with Japan'. That was not a profound thought. And not a particularly 'macro' thought either. My macho thought along was that I would not shave again

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REMINDER ...

CCMV will have ONE MEETING ONLY in November & December because of the holidays.

CCMV will be meeting on the second Tuesday of the month only in November & December. We will return to our regular schedule of two meetings per month in January. For updated information visit the website at: www.CCMV.net.

Aging with Dignity

The annual Aging with Dignity Symposium will be held on October 16, 2004 at Chancellor Place in Murrieta.

This **FREE** event invites leading professionals to present educational information on topics that have critical life importance for seniors and caregivers alike. This educational symposium is for the adult children of seniors, as well as seniors. This is the first of its kind in the Temecula Valley. This symposium is strictly to educate our community and absolutely **NO** products or promotion of services will be allowed on the premises during this Symposium. For more information visit their website: www.AgingWithDignity.com

Walk For Life

The Sun City Concern is holding it's first annual Walk For Life on October 23rd. The proceeds for this event will benefit the work of Sun City Concern keeping the connection alive in our community. Please support this fund raiser by walking, supporting a walker or volunteering that day. You can get more information on their website: www.SunCityConcern.org



Quick Tip - CONSTANT FONTS - Fonts may come and fonts may go, but the size changes to whatever is called for in the Web site you visit. If this bothers you, in Internet Explorer, go to Tools/Internet Options and in the General tab click on Accessibility, then check the option for "Ignore font sizes specified on Web pages".

Great News for you... Great Profits for CCMV

The Valley News is offering to CCMV the opportunity to make some money, AND get great news in the process. For each \$20 subscription, CCMV will receive \$5!! You will receive 1 year of the weekly published Valley News **AND** the Los Angeles Times Weekend Edition at no additional cost.

To subscribe, fill out the **SPECIAL** form below and either mail to the address on the form OR bring to a meeting in September. Additional subscription forms will be available at the meeting or by contacting Joannie Lenz at joannie@RainbowFlair.com.

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Day of Infamy

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until we entered Tokyo harbor. Others shared my 'macho' thoughts and expressed them similarly. This war would be a piece of cake.

The attack barely ended when my ship unmoored from Berth 13 unassisted by the usual tug assistance and headed for sea to join the carrier Enterprise and other fleet ships in pursuit of Japanese ships. We did not have any more encounters and after a few days we headed back into the port of Pearl Harbor.

On seeing the smoking disaster in the harbor, my macho thought evaporated and I shaved. Now my macro thought was that this was a war about dominance in the Pacific.

Ok, so much for the war itself. I did not know then of other events that had taken place the computing world in which I would be involved later. What? The computing world in 1941? Let me say, as an aside, that Lord Kelvin was devising computational methods in 1847. Feel old now?

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Day of Infamy

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Ok, back again to my story. I spent the rest of my time in World War 2 in the Navy in the Pacific Theater. I was discharged after 6 years in the Navy. (Hey, it was an honorable discharge.) In groping around as a civilian after that long stint in the service I decided to go to college at a ripe old age of 28 and I ended my search with an Electrical Engineering Degree (BSEE) at MIT in 1952. MIT had a laboratory called The Instrumentation Laboratory which was in the Division of Industrial Cooperation that housed the Rockefeller Differential Analyzer, a huge computer that was as big as my house.

Here is where I enter the picture again in the events of macro importance. On graduation I decided to work with the Instrumentation Laboratory. That was in 1952. I was assigned to work on that monster which was really on its last legs (or vacuum tubes). I learned that the machine was built with a grant from the Rockefellers. I don't know if the money came from the foundation or money bags himself. That fantastic machine (the monster that it was in size and importance) was built during the '30s' at the Lab before WW2!.

That big computer was put to work during the WW2 to solve the trajectory problems of the buzz bombs that Germany fired off to England during that war (among other things). I don't know much more than that about its use. Much of the work was research work done by graduate students at MIT before my time.

The machine itself used only

vacuum tubes. A technician was assigned specifically to that machine just to keep it maintained. The mathematical element was a mechanical wheel and disk (or platter) as an integrating function. Just imagine a phonograph arm (or a hard disk arm) with a wheel on it and a spinning disk. The relationships between the spinning wheel, the wheel position and the disk itself defined the integral function. Equations written as integrating functions that, as you know in math, can be defined as differential equations. Hence the name, The Differential Analyzer. Programming was done by punched tape that defined the interconnection of all the integral elements in accordance with the differential equation to be plotted and/or solved.

Of course, I only programmed the machine while I was there along with another grad and some assistants. He left the Lab to work with IBM and for a while I was left alone with my mistress. As I said earlier, the machine was on its last legs. Whirlwind and other digital computers were being developed there and elsewhere. The new world would be all digital except for the special purpose analog computers which are still being used today.

And when I left, I pulled the power switch and that was the end of the Rockefeller Differential Analyzer. It was a famous machine and its parts were distributed to museums all over the country.

I declined to be sent to a museum since I was not yet obsolete. However at 86 years, I am ready now. But there are no takers now..



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